

I20037.A09

JC784 U.S. PTO
09/736441
12/15/00


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thiom Keng TAN et al.

Reissue Appl. No.:

Assignee : Matsushita Electric Industrial Co.

Group Art Unit:

Patent No.: 6,075,576

Reissue Filing Date:

Issue Date: June 13, 2000

**Title : METHOD FOR DISPLAY TIME STAMPING AND
SYNCHRONIZATION OF MULTIPLE VIDEO OBJECT PLANES**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner assigned to the above-referenced application:

An International Search Report that issued on November 7, 1997 for counterpart Japanese PCT application PCT/JP97/02319, was cited in the U.S. application that issued as U.S. Letters Patent 6,075,576, in which the following documents were cited as being relevant by the Examiner:

An article by O. AVARO et al., entitled "The MPEG-4 systems and description languages: A way ahead in audio visual information representation", at pages 385-431 of SIGNAL PROCESSING. IMAGE COMMUNICATION, vol. 9, no. 4, May 1997, was cited by the Foreign Examiner as being a category "A" document, pertaining to a document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance, as well as a category

“P” document, pertaining to a document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed, with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The foreign Examiner indicated that page 423, paragraph 6.2.1 and page 424, paragraph 6.2.2 are relevant;

An article by A. KNOLL, entitled “MSDL: MPEG-4-SYSTEMS AND DESCRIPTION LANGUAGES”, at pages 459, 460, 462, 464 and 465 of FERNSEH UND KINOTECHNIK, vol. 50, No. 8/09, August 1996, which was cited by the Examiner as being a category “P” and “A” document, with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that paragraph 9 is relevant;

European Patent EP 0 648 056 to Thomson Consumer Electronics, published on April 12, 1995, was cited by the foreign Examiner as being a category “A” document with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that the Abstract and Fig. 1 are relevant. Applicants note that U.S. Patents 5,430,485 and 5,467,139 are counterpart documents; and

European Patent EP 0 634 870 A2 to Pioneer Electronic Corp., published on January 18, 1995, was cited by the foreign Examiner as being a category “A” document with respect to claims 1-8 of the foreign application. The Examiner indicated that the Abstract; column 10, lines 44-48; column 11, lines 31-38; and Fig. 9 are relevant. Applicants note that U.S. Patent 5,537,409 is a counterpart document.

The following documents were cited by the Examiner in U.S. Application No. 09/011,761 that issued as U.S. Letters Patent 6,075,576:

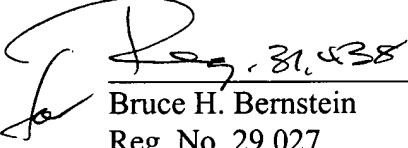
U.S. Patent 5,793,431 to BLANCHARD, which issued in August, 1998; and

U.S. Patent 5,784,422 to HEERMANN, which issued in July, 1998.

A copy of each document is enclosed herewith for the review of the Examiner, and as provided in M.P.E.P. §609. Further, these documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 form. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider each cited document and to indicate such consideration by appropriately initialing the enclosed PTO-1449 form and returning a copy of the initialed form with the next communication.

Any comments or questions concerning this application can be directed to the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
Thiow Keng TAN et al.



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November 30, 2000
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